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Art Gallery of Mississauga is Now Open

After Months of Closed Doors, Art Gallery of Mississauga Welcomes the Public Back with Three Exciting Exhibits Showing this Month.

Mississauga, ON: Today, Art Gallery of Mississauga celebrates the arrival of its first full week open, post COVID closures. The main gallery features living art by **Noni Kaur**. The exhibit titled *Antidote* is a non-toxic sustainable art piece where dyed coconut shavings create colourful and textured work depicted as "the body as a landscape". Kaur's work is geared towards imagery of the female body. Bright colours represent fertility, energy, passion, sexuality and sustainability.

As coconut naturally decomposes over time, so would her work when left for months. "My work gives the holistic idea of where we come from vs. where we are going. The human vs. post human," She says. Her work engages the senses and elaborates on her interest in microorganisms, and the thought of returning to the earth as we once were.

Kaur was invited to select a piece from the AGM permanent collection which connected to her work. **Norval Morrisseau's** (1932-2007) "The Artist With Old Friends" was chosen and will be the first painting in the educational series by *The Indigenous Group of Seven* featured at the gallery this year.

The Freeman Gallery hosts home to "Darkness Does Not Belong in the Shadows." A conversation – "a dialogue in images" between two renowned artists; **Paul Shilling (Dazaunggee) an Indigenous Artist and Chippewa of Rama First Nation, and Ted Fullerton a Canadian post-war and contemporary artist**. Both artists were open to hear the other. They were willing to ask hard questions in order to build a friendship through trust, respect, emotional support, and admiration.

As they sat beneath the trees, side by side on a warm sunny day they agreed that "the painted conversation should also be said in words and in public, no matter how difficult the social situation presents itself in life." The final works are a visual dialogue of their risk, as well as a difficult conversation translated onto the canvas. "Working to shed what was taught and invite the new and ever-changing self to heal." - Paul Shilling (Dazaunggee).

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